

# DIRECTORS OF W.R.&E. SPLIT ON PROPOSED DIVIDEND CUT

By BILL PRICE.

Directors of the Washington Railway and Electric Company will decide Thursday whether the dividend rate upon the common stock of the company is to be continued at 7 per cent.

Inside information today is that there is a sharp division of opinion on the subject, with a strong element of the directors opposed to continuation of the present dividend and in favor of its curtailment. The other element believes that the company is in position to go on with the 7 per cent.

## Boycott Cuts Revenue.

This will be the first time since "railway common" was put on a 7 per cent basis that any question has arisen as to reduction of rate, the earnings of the company and its ally, the Potomac Electric Light Company, having been ample to have paid a greater dividend if policy had considered this best.

The trouble now is mainly the heavy financial losses incurred in the recent strike, in which the company steadfastly refused to deal with the union of the striking motorman and conductors, and brought here, at enormous expense, organized strike-breakers from all over the country. Because of a partial boycott by the public the receipts fell off tremendously for a number of months, and are just now becoming normal, despite the fact that Washington's population has leaped upward by the thousands in the same time.

## Loss of Half Million.

A conservative director of the organization told The Times representative today that the total losses, through importation of strike breakers and heavy falling off in receipts for months, would aggregate close to HALF A MILLION DOLLARS.

It is broadly hinted that any attempt to maintain the 7 per cent dividend will mean further stunting in maintenance and, naturally, further dissatisfaction by the public.

That the company, through its present management, has created an atmosphere of hostility in the utilities commission and on the part of the public is now beginning to be seriously realized by the directors and stockholders for the first time, resulting in what is today predicted will culminate before a great while in a

# Miss Taft and Students Work on Farm



—Photos by International.

These young women are Bryn Mawr girls at work on the Sharpless farm, near Westchester, Pa. Miss Helen Taft, daughter of the former President, recently appointed dean of the college, is shown with two of the college students busy at the task of farming. Miss Taft wears a skirt when she labors in the garden—the other girls don bloomers.

revolution in the executive handling of the concern.

## Talk of Reorganization.

The directors have no power to attempt a reorganization, that being in the hands of the stockholders, who do not hold their annual meeting until January.

It was declared that, so far as the management of the recent strike went, the directors and stockholders have no complaints against leading officials, all being willing to pay the losses to "prevent another attempt to unionize the lines of the company by labor leaders not even residents of Washington."

The criticism extends to other fields of management, particularly that through which the company has been put in an unenviable position in public and official minds, and because of failure to consult the directors on extremely important steps, the execution of which brought no favor in any direction.

## Light Cut Does Not Worry.

The recent cut in electric light rates in Washington by the Utilities Commission, estimated eventually to save the people here more than one-third of a million dollars a year, and cutting the revenues of the company that amount, does not bother the directors at this time in considering the interest rate on common stock. Owning the majority stock of the Potomac Electric Light Company, the Washington Railway and Electric Company received on that stock last year 11 per cent in dividends, quite a sum, though the company's earnings materially in keeping up a good interest rate on common.

The Utilities Commission estimated that under its cut in rates the electric light stock would earn 7 per cent.

## Will Keep on Fighting.

The directors think it will be two or three long years before this cut will be effective or before their dividend earnings from electric light will be disturbed, if at all. The order of the commission will be fought through every court in the country on the ground of confiscation. The unanimous view is that 7 per cent is not sufficient to stabilize the property and that the company will not regard it as commensurate with the risks to be run.

Attorneys of the company are reported as sanguine that the order of the utilities commission will not stand in the courts, and they will take early action to stay the order, pending final settlement by the highest tribunals.

# SARATOGA IS INJURED BUT LITTLE IN CRASH

The American transport Saratoga, rammed in New York harbor yesterday, is today undergoing repairs in a shipyard. Naval officers reported that she has only one hole in her side and can be made seaworthy without great delay.

The damage to the Saratoga was sustained when she was rammed by the steamship Panama. The Saratoga, with a large number of soldiers aboard, lay at anchor in the fairway off Staten Island when the Panama, because of a misunderstanding of signals from the bridge to the engine room, crashed into her port quarter, tearing a hole 22 feet deep. Only one compartment of the Saratoga was flooded, the other bulkheads holding.

## No Soldier Injured.

All those on the Saratoga were taken off without accident, including a man suffering from malaria who was carried on a stretcher. There was a little alarm among the women on the Panama, but they were quickly calmed by the army doctors coming up from Colon.

There was the most excitement on the Saratoga. It lasted some ten or fifteen minutes. Few of the soldiers put on life belts, but the proximity of the vessel to Staten Island, less than a thousand feet away, and the number of huge motor launches and small boats around rendered the confidence of all on board. Not a single person jumped into the water.

In answer to the shrill blasts of the Panama's whistle all kinds of craft went to the side of the sinking steamer and took off those aboard, carrying them to the liner which had her two accommodation ladders down and the lower deck ports open.

## Boats Not Needed.

A number of men remained on the Saratoga to look after the baggage she had aboard, and meantime she was kept from foundering by the aid of tugs and her strong watertight compartments, although the pressure of the water in the engine room was very heavy. The boats on the Panama and Saratoga were all ready for lowering, but were not needed.

The Saratoga, owned by the War line, she is the fastest of all the steamships in the coastwise trade.

White Mountains Through Sleeping Car leaves Washington, 1:15 P. M. week days, arrives Bretton Woods, 7:35 next morning. Pennsylvania R.R. Hell Gate Bridge Route.—Advt.

# ELECTRIC COMPANY SUES TO CHANGE VALUATION DATA

Suits to set aside the valuation of the properties of the Potomac Electric Power Company by the Public Utilities Commission and to enjoin the commission, pending a final hearing, from enforcing or attempting to put into operation any rates, tariffs, tolls, or changes based on such valuation, was entered in the District Supreme Court today by the corporation.

The valuation found by the commission was \$11,231,170.43. The valuation claimed by the company, based upon the report of cost of reproduction, made by its own expert, Harold Almet, was \$23,235,387. The findings of the commission are declared to be "inadequate, unreasonable, and unlawful for the following reasons:

"Because the said commission, in its conception of the law and conduct of said inquiry, misconstrued, misapplied, ignored, and violated the provisions and purposes of the law under which they were acting.

## Incompetent Evidence.

"The said opinion, order, and findings are based upon illegal and incompetent evidence, this contention being supported by the charge that reports of the accounting and engineering divisions of the valuation bureau were accepted by the commission without sufficient prima facie evidence.

"Because in finding that the amount of money it would require to secure the right of way, reconstruct the conduits, subways, poles, wires, switchboards, exchanges, offices, works, storage plants, power plants, machinery and any other property not included in the foregoing enumeration used or useful to the company and to replace the physical property belonging to the public utility was but \$11,090,228.78 when the evidence showed that at the date of said ascertainment it could have required at least \$23,235,387 to secure, reconstruct, and replace said property, exclusive of many items of cost omitted by reason of the impossibility of ascertaining with certainty the existence of many items of property or the cost thereof in part."

The bill avers that the commission erroneously eliminated from the historical cost of the property as of July 1, 1914, costs to the amount of \$12,500,000 without evidence to support or justify such elimination and asks that the amount be restored.

## "Excluded By Statute."

It avers that many expenditures made by the company were ignored and excluded by the commission, "because of the statute of the valuation bureau, in his report on historical cost."

With respect to the report of Charles L. Pillsbury, chief engineer of the valuation bureau, it is declared that this witness, "confronted by his own judgment as to what was right and proper," was compelled by peremptory orders given by the commission and his immediate superior, Edward W. Bemis, director of valuations, to confine himself in his estimate to that portion of the physical property actually within the District and to disregard all pre-organization expenses and all expenses of every character incurred prior to actual construction.

## Compiles "Under Duress."

Notice of intent to comply "under duress" with the recent order of the Public Utilities Commission prescribing reduced rates for electric service pending action by the court on a separate suit to be instituted on the rate question was received by the commission today from the Potomac Electric Power Company. The reduction of from 10 cents to 8 cents per kilowatt hour and from \$1 to 75 cents for the minimum charge becomes effective tomorrow.

Proceedings in the rate case probably will be filed tomorrow.

The company asks that the rates on file be taken as modified, subject to appeal therefrom and the action of the court, until the company has had time to prepare new printed schedules.

# Vital Records.

**Births.**  
Bernard S. and Annie M. Wilson, girl.  
Raymond D. and Annie L. Hill, girl.  
Charles W. and Mercer P. McCrea, boy.  
Douglas W. and Margaret A. Wells, girl.  
Norman and Heddie W. Sweeney, girl.  
John T. and Edna Smith, girl.  
Charles A. and Katherine Padgett, girl.  
Harry S. and Durrice E. Palmer, girl.  
Barrett F. and Marie E. Nally, girl.  
John J. and Mary C. Kilroy, boy.  
Norman E. and Mabel M. Hutchinson, girl.  
Pietro and Rosina Genovesi, boy.  
Malcolm F. and Kathleen J. Garnett, boy.  
Harry C. and Ruth V. Fleming, boy.  
Paul S. and Sadie A. Dwyer, boy.  
Alfred F. and Elsie M. Cullen, boy.  
Carlton J. and Winifred Reddon, girl.  
Leonardo and Gracie Aquilino, girl.  
Harry G. and Emily M. Annie, boy.  
Eugene and Cora E. Vanhook, boy.  
William W. and Peter Robb, boy.  
George W. and Pauline Peters, girl.  
George and Madeline Henry, girl.  
Robert and Gertrude Brown, boy.

**Marriage Licenses.**  
Daniel McFadden, Jr., 26, and Agnes Kelly, 19. The Rev. John H. Mulligan.  
Robert N. Montgomery, 27, Mary P. Mason, 19. The Rev. Boyd V. Fetter.  
Raymond C. Simpson, 25, Sarah E. Barr, 18. The Rev. Louis C. Clark.  
Willard S. Robbins, 25, Helen Doran, 22. The Rev. Bernard Brashaupt.  
James N. Jackson, 26, Alice L. Brown, 13. The Rev. Aquila Bayles.  
James H. Gibson, 26, Stateville, N. C.; Julia E. Cutting, 21, Johnstown, Va. The Rev. Robert W. Cox.  
Louis E. and Esther Lustick, 18. The Rev. G. Silverstone.

**Deaths.**  
Reverend Lackey, 7 yrs., Providence Hosp. George Dean, 77 yrs., 419 4th st. se. Amanda E. Coates, 77 yrs., 1011 4th st. se. Arthur, 47 yrs., 419 4th st. se. Adam J. Fay, 41 yrs., Wash. Asy. Hos. Ernest C. Varrel, 4 yrs., Emergency Hos. Thomas McCauley, 4 yrs., Walter Reed Hos. Sarah H. Garces, 39 yrs., 713 N. C. ave. se. James H. Harrison, 5 yrs., 579 4th st. se. William L. Nichols, 1 yr., 1148 Lingers st. Mary E. Watkins, 14 yrs., 95, Elizabeth's Hos. Lucy Stewart, 56 yrs., 1027 4th st. nw. Dennis W. Bundy, 4 mos., 278 16th st. nw. Joseph Fenwick, 2 mos., 309 Murray ct. se.

**UNDERTAKERS.**  
Embalmers, Funeral Directors.  
J. WILLIAM LEE.  
UNDERTAKERS AND EMBALMERS.  
221 Pa. Ave. N. W.  
Telephone M. 1355. WASHINGTON, D. C.  
**FLORAL DESIGNS.**  
FUNERAL DESIGNS  
Of every description—moderate prices.  
GUDR.  
1214 & 972 N. W.

# Attacking Airplanes



GERMAN AIR ATTACK.

These aircraft, upon which the result of the war may largely depend, move when attacking in regular formations, changing alignment and groupings exactly as do bodies of soldiers or cavalry on the ground.

# 'Don't Let Sun Kill Our Babies,' War Message of Miss Lathrop

"War is about to kill our young men; we must not let the summer sun kill our babies," was the warning issued to the mothers of America today by Miss Julia Lathrop of the Federal Children's Bureau.

"I stood at my window the other morning," she went on, "and watched company after company of the flower of our youth marching past the Secretary of War in review and on the way to war."

"I could have sat down on the floor and wept bucketsful."

"But weeping bucketsful will do no good. We must fight the war."

"And saving babies is a vital part of fighting the war. Now that the heat, almost as deadly an enemy to babies as shells and bullets and bayonets are to men, is upon us, the moment has come for women of America to 'take up arms' against it."

Miss Lathrop's bureau is doing its bit in this.

Out through the South and West today her army of trained women is moving on the households of the poor, attacking the city and village which does not insure its babies pure milk and plenty of it, fighting the butchers who are wastefully slaughtering milk cows.

In addition Miss Lathrop has a brigade of home education workers in the field. Armed with working

models of outdoor baby cribs, fireless cookers and iceless iceboxes, they are invading homes having babies, teaching mothers to make and use these baby saving devices.

"The horrible slaughter of their young men has brought England and France to keen realization that they MUST fight the battle for their babies," continued Miss Lathrop.

"And the quicker the better for America to realize that this war must be fought twice: Once before the lines, with bullets and blood and shells and flying men. Once behind the lines, with intelligence and extreme care combating the enemies of baby life and health."

"The general health of the public at large is of course, important, but the health and welfare of those little ones and their mothers who are to replenish the race is absolutely vital."

Miss Lathrop has induced the Council of National Defense to join her in this work. Recommendation has been made by the council to the nation that:

Public health nurses be kept at home for the babies instead of being sent to war.

That every municipality insure the continued high standard and quantity of the baby milk supply.

That state and local councils take an active interest in the care of mothers and babies, as a war measure.

# PERSHING'S TROOPS WILL SEE FIGHTING IN FEW WEEKS NOW

American troops of the Pershing expeditionary force will be in direct contact with the Germans within the next three or four weeks, if present plans for mobilization and intensive training of American units are followed out.

This plan is for the Sammies to take over a limited portion of first-line trenches, to accomplish the double purpose of breaking the ice for America's participation in the actual fighting and giving the most seasoned men a chance at modern trench warfare in order that they may get accustomed to it themselves and be in a position to help in the training of other units.

Unless some emergency arises it is not proposed to send American troops in large numbers into the trenches in the immediate future.

The idea is to have these troops take charge of a limited line, primarily for training purposes. But the American troops will be in shape to take care of themselves in case the Germans opposite them show a desire to precipitate matters. Unusual activity, however, is not expected on the sector where the Americans will be placed until they have had an opportunity to get acclimated, so to speak.

Army officers here say the most important result perhaps will be achieved by getting American officers, especially the younger ones, accustomed to the deafening blasts of heavy gunfire. There is no way for this and other incidental lessons to be learned except by being in the trenches under fire from enemy guns. All the theoretical experience in the world, it is said, will not equal an hour's practical experience in this respect.

# PUT ON DRAFT BOARD MONTHS AFTER DEATH

DETROIT, July 31.—When the selective draft board of appeals met to organize today, John H. Hasty, one of the appointed members failed to appear.

Investigation revealed that Mr. Hasty died last winter.

Hurried recommendations were sent to President Wilson to appoint Frank H. Crow, former police commissioner, to the vacancy. The board will remain idle until Washington is heard from.

# GERMANS KILL FAMILY SUSPECTED OF SPYING

AMSTERDAM, July 31.—German authorities at Liege shot down a merchant and his wife and two daughters on the unproved charge of espionage, according to a wireless message received here today.

The two daughters, it is declared, had been compelled to witness the execution of their parents.

# FOR THROAT AND LUNGS STUBBORN COUGES AND COLDS Eckman's Alterative

Sold by O'DONNELL'S DRUG STORES

**Cuticura Soap**  
Is My Ideal  
for preserving, purifying and beautifying  
The Complexion  
Hands and Hair  
Especially when preceded by touches of Cuticura Ointment to pimples, redness, roughness and dandruff.  
For sample each free by mail. Advt. "Cuticura," Dept. Boston, Mass. Sold throughout the world. Soap 25c. Ointment 35c and 50c.

# A Never Failing Way to Banish Ugly Hairs

(Aids to Beauty)

No woman is immune to superfluous growths, and because these are likely to appear at any time, it is advisable to always have some delicate powder handy to use when the occasion arises. A paste is made with some of the powder and water and spread upon the hairy surface. In about 2 minutes this is carefully removed and the skin washed. You will then find that your skin is entirely free from hair or fuzz. Be sure, however, to get real delatone.—Advt.

**BISURATED  
MAGNESIA**  
For Dyspepsia, Indigestion,  
Heartburn, Belching, Sour Acid Stomach,  
Gas in Stomach, etc., take a teaspoonful of Bisurated Magnesia in a half glass of hot water after eating. Is safe, pleasant and harmless to use and gives almost instant relief. It neutralizes stomach acidity and prevents the food contents so that digestion is easy and painless. Sold by druggists everywhere.—Advt.

**"My Faithful Servant"**  
The New Perfection is never cranky, never lazy, never late. It cooks delicious meals, and serves them on the minute. More than 2,500,000 American housewives own New Perfections.  
Cooks fast or slow as you like. Turns all the oil into heat, leaving nothing to smoke or smell.  
Flame always visible, always steady. All the heat goes into the cooking—it doesn't overheat the kitchen.  
It's the long blue chimney burner insuring perfect combustion that does it.  
Ask your dealer to show you the reversible glass reservoir, a new and exclusive feature of the New Perfection.  
For best results use  
**ALADDIN SECURITY OIL**  
**STANDARD OIL COMPANY**  
Washington, D.C. (New Jersey)  
Norfolk, Va. BALTIMORE MD.  
Richmond, Va. Charlotte, N. C.  
Charleston, W. Va.  
Charleston, S. C.  
**NEW PERFECTION  
OIL COOK STOVE**